



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ALIEN SMUGGLING RESULTING IN DEATH

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on August 6, 2003, a federal grand jury at Tucson, Arizona, returned a five count indictment against Javier Espinosa-Felix, DOB: October 12, 1979, a Mexican citizen, and Jesus Villareal-Gonzalez, DOB: January 12, 1971, a Mexican citizen.

The federal indictment charges the defendants with Conspiracy to Transport Illegal Aliens in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I), Transportation of Illegal Aliens for commercial advantage or private financial gain and resulting in the death of Teresa Galvan in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Sections 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii), 1324(a)(1)(B)(i), and 1324(a)(1)(B)(iv), and Bringing In Illegal Aliens in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324(2)(B)(ii).

On or about July 9, 2003, at or near Douglas, Arizona the defendants, working together, guided two groups totaling approximately 13 illegal aliens across the desert. When Javier Espinosa-Felix's group was located, the members of the group advised United States Border Patrol that there was a woman left behind in the desert. Water and aid were given to the illegal aliens and a search was conducted for the

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woman left behind. Teresa Galvan, a Mexican citizen was found unconscious and pronounced dead a short time later. Jesus Villareal-Gonzalez' and his group of illegal aliens were also located.

The defendants are currently detained.

A conviction for Conspiracy to Transport Illegal Aliens carries a maximum penalty of ten year(s), a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Transportation of Illegal Aliens for commercial advantage or private financial gain and resulting in the death of any person carries a penalty of death or imprisonment for any term of years or for life, a \$250,000 fine, or both. A conviction for Bringing in Illegal Aliens carries a penalty of not less than three nor more than ten years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the United States Border Patrol, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection.

The prosecution is being handled by Judson Mihok, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-1532-TUC
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